

Concerned over Media consolidation- You need a more complete public record
I am a Master's student in Global media and communications at USC's Annenberg School and the London School of Economics. I was involved in the organizing of an April 28th public forum on media ownership, attended by Commissioner Michael Copps, Commissioner Adelstein (via teleconference), Congressman Xavier Beccera, and representatives from networks, labor unions, public interest groups, academic institutions, independent media companies, and newspaper companies.

It is clear that the public record, though voluminous in support of regulation, is not comprehensive enough to make a decision at this time. To alter the media landscape at this point is a HUGE mistake. The evidence is not in. Continuing down the road of consolidation and unregulated integration in the media industries will no doubt result in greater restrictions on access, lack of diversity of voices, and increasing homogenization of cultural products.

Please do not rush in to making decisions about these issues. There is no rush. The integrity and purpose of the FCC depends on the realization of specific policy goals: Competition, Localism and Diversity. Repealing the rules entirely or relying purely on a scientific, anti-trust like diversity index will not further these goals.

I am writing to encourage you to maintain the discretion of the FCC. It is an agency entrusted by the American people to license our airwaves to reliable custodians and to monitor how those custodians administer our airwaves. Unbridled consolidation is a blatant threat to the "marketplace of ideas" and the importance of diversity, localism and competition in media marketplaces.